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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Employment Bulletin

Bruce Sundlun
Governor

John M. Robinson
Director

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RHODE ISLAND EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT - JANUARY 1992

Total Rhode Island nonagricultural wage and salary jobs declined in January as substantial decreases occurred in both the Goods Producing and Service Producing industries of the state's economy. The January job total of 410,500 represented a monthly reduction of 13,900 and was 12,900 below the year earlier figure.

Employment Estimates Revised

Published estimates for 1990 and 1991 have been revised to a first quarter 1991 benchmark. Current figures reflect data on new firms, expansion or contraction in existing firms not sampled, and also reflect changes in assigned industrial coding caused by product or service changes occurring in 1990-1991.

Employment among the Goods Producing industries was estimated at 99,100 in January, reflecting a downturn of 4,300 from the prior month and 7,500 from a year ago. Contract Construction jobs, at 10,800, were down 1,900 on a monthly basis and 2,800 compared to a year ago. Overall manufacturing employment fell to 88,300 in January, showing a reduction of 2,400 from December and 4,700 from January 1991. Manufacturers of Durable Goods reported a monthly loss of 1,800 jobs, while those in Nondurable Goods registered a decrease of 600. Within the factory sector, the most substantial monthly job declines were evident in Jewelry-Silverware (-1,400). For the same period, Leather Products and Fabricated Metals recorded downturns of 300 and 200, respectively. Smaller monthly decreases of 100 each were reported in Stone-Clay-Glass, Primary Metals, Electrical Machinery, Textiles, Paper Products and Plastics Products. In contrast, Transportation Equipment was the only factory segment which reflected a monthly increase (+100). Job levels in the remaining manufacturing segments - four in Durable Goods and five in Nondurable Goods - were unchanged from the previous month.

The January work week averaged 40.1 hours, down 0.5 of an hour from December, but up one hour from a year ago. Production workers averaged $9.72 per hour in January, showing a drop of one cent from the prior month and three cents from a year ago.

The number of jobs in the Service Producing sector totalled 311,400 in January, representing a decline of 9,600 from December and 5,400 from the January 1991 figure. Seasonal decreases in Wholesale/Retail Trade (-3,400) along with declines in Miscellaneous Services (-5,000, primarily education-related) accounted for the largest overall monthly loss. Both Finance, Insurance & Real Estate and Government recorded monthly downturns of 500, followed by a decrease of 200 in Transportation & Public Utilities.

Rhode Island's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 8.0 percent in January, a decline of three-tenths of a percentage point from the December level of 8.3 percent. The state's unadjusted rate posted a monthly increase - climbing from 7.8 percent in December to 8.1 percent in January. Correspondingly, the January jobless total increased to 41,200, reflecting an increase of 1,800 from the December figure. One year ago, the adjusted and unadjusted rates were estimated at 8.1 and 8.3 percent, respectively, while the number of unemployed stood at 42,000.

Nationally, the seasonally adjusted rate was unchanged from the December estimate of 7.1 percent. The U.S. unadjusted rate increased over the month - from 6.8 percent in December to 8.0 percent in January. A year ago the estimates for the country were placed at 6.2 percent (seasonally adjusted) and 7.0 percent (unadjusted).

Have You Heard About WORKSHARING?

WORKSHARING is a program which provides employers with an alternative to the often agonizing prospect of laying off workers when business declines. This program allows employers to retain skilled workers and allows workers to keep their jobs.

These are just some of the advantages:

- Employers can retain skilled workers.
- Reduces hiring and retraining costs when business improves.
- Employees avoid financial and emotional hardships usually associated with layoffs.
- May improve employee morale.

WORKSHARING could be a viable alternative for companies considering layoffs. This is a new program and is available to any private employer with two or more employees.

Call Sandy Arruda at 727-4992 for details. If you wish, arrangements can be made to conduct an informational session at your workplace. *Put **WORKSHARING** to work for you!*

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING
101 Friendship Street
Providence, R.I. 02903-3740

Employment and unemployment statistics contained in this report were compiled by THE DEPT. OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING in cooperation with the BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, U.S. DEPT. OF LABOR. For additional information contact LABOR MARKET INFORMATION at 277-3706. TDD Voice: 277-3718.

RHODE ISLAND

Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

	Jan. 1992	Dec.* 1991	Jan.* 1991	
Civilian Labor Force	506.7	508.2	504.8	
Resident Employment	465.5	468.8	462.7	
Unemployment	41.2	39.4	42.0	
Rate (Unadjusted)	8.1	7.8	8.3	
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	8.0	8.3	8.1	*Revised

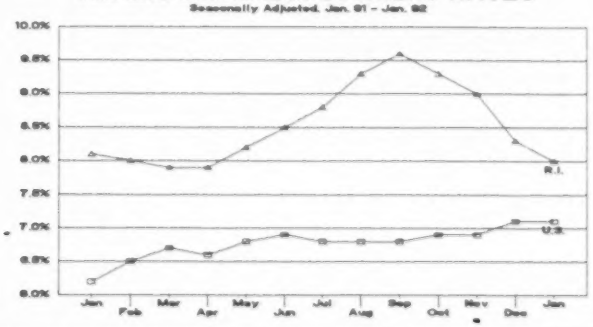
UNITED STATES

Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

	Jan. 1992	Dec. 1991	Jan. 1991
Civilian Labor Force	125,072	125,108	123,585
Resident Employment	115,122	116,549	114,990
Unemployment	9,949	8,559	8,595
Rate (Unadjusted)	8.0	6.8	7.0
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	7.1	7.1	6.2

R.I. and U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Seasonally Adjusted, Jan. 91 - Jan. 92



TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands) Jan. 1992	Dec. 1991	Jan. 1991	NET CHANGE FROM Dec. 1991	Jan. 1991
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	410.5	424.4	423.4	- 13900	- 12900
GOODS PRODUCING	99.1	103.4	106.6	- 4300	- 7500
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	10.8	12.7	13.6	- 1900	- 2800
MANUFACTURING	88.3	90.7	93.0	- 2400	- 4700
SERVICE PRODUCING	311.4	321.0	316.8	- 9600	- 5400
TRANS. & PUBLIC UTILITIES	14.3	14.5	14.9	- 200	- 600
TRADE (Wholesale & Retail)	86.1	89.5	89.2	- 3400	- 3100
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	25.3	25.8	26.7	- 500	- 1400
SERVICE (Miscellaneous)	124.5	129.5	122.5	- 5000	+ 2000
GOVERNMENT	61.2	61.7	63.5	- 500	- 2300

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN R.I.

JANUARY 1992

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands)	PRODUCTION-WORKER AVERAGES Weekly Earnings	Weekly Hours	Hourly Earnings
ALL MANUFACTURING	88.3	389.77	40.1	9.72
DURABLE MFG.	58.9	388.40	40.0	9.71
LUMBER/FURNITURE	2.3	421.51	36.4	11.58
STONE-CLAY-GLASS	1.2	445.60	40.0	11.14
PRIMARY METALS	3.5	435.45	42.4	10.27
FABRICATED METALS	7.2	344.79	37.6	9.17
NONELECTRIC MACH.	5.2	551.90	46.3	11.92
ELECTRICAL MACH.	4.6	373.64	38.8	9.63
TRANS. EQUIPMENT	6.5	516.86	42.4	12.19
INSTRUMENTS	6.2	441.28	39.4	11.20
JEWELRY-SILVERWARE	17.2	310.47	39.4	7.88
MISCELLANEOUS MFG.	5.0	329.00	38.3	8.59
NONDURABLE MFG.	29.4	390.98	40.1	9.75
FOOD-BEVERAGE	3.0	387.99	40.5	9.58
TEXTILES	7.7	379.53	42.5	8.93
APPAREL	1.3	263.40	40.9	6.44
PAPER PRODUCTS	1.8	383.52	40.8	9.40
PRINTING-PUBLISHING	5.4	405.45	30.1	13.47
CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	3.0	468.12	40.6	11.53
RUBBER PRODUCTS	0.7	430.99	36.9	11.68
PLASTICS PRODUCTS	5.0	438.06	42.0	10.43
LEATHER PRODUCTS	1.5	288.23	42.2	6.83

Farmers, Self-employed, Domestic and Armed Services personnel are excluded from the Establishment Employment figures. Current month figures are PRELIMINARY. Prior month and year figures are REVISED.